

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STOCKH 04729 071458Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 FEAE-00
DODE-00 ERDA-05 SS-15 SP-02 MCE-00 PM-05 H-01
PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 HA-05 /114 W
-----114798 071656Z /47

R 071323Z NOV 77
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2209
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, SW
SUBJECT: SWEDES PLAN FURTHER CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB

REF: STOCKHOLM 4337

1. AT A STOCKHOLM MEETING NOVEMBER 3 CALLED TO PROTEST
THE NEUTRON BOMB, SPEAKERS FROM A NUMBER OF SWEDISH PEACE
ORGANIZATIONS DENOUNCED THE WEAPON AND PLANNED FURTHER
STRATEGY AGAINST ITS PRODUCTION AND DEPLOYMENT. IT WAS
AGREED THAT A DEMONSTRATION IN DOWNTOWN STOCKHOLM WOULD
TAKE PLACE ON NOVEMBER 27, (ENDING PRESUMABLY AT THIS EMBASSY).
IN ADDITION PEACE GROUPS SIGNALLED THEIR INTENTION TO SEND
A RESOLUTION FROM THE MEETING DIRECTLY TO PRESIDENT CARTER.

2. ARGUMENTS ASSEMBLED AGAINST THE WEAPON ARE THOSE WE CAN
EXPECT WILL BE THE MAINSTAY OF THE CAMPAIGN IN SWEDEN.
DR. FRANK BARNABY, BRITISH-BORN HEAD OF THE STOCKHOLM
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PAGE 02 STOCKH 04729 071458Z

INTERNATIONAL PEACE INSTITUTE (SIPRI), SPOKE OF THE
EFFECTS OF IONIZING RADIATION AND THE GENETIC DAMAGE
TO FUTURE GENERATIONS SHOULD SUCH A WEAPON BE USED.
HE ALSO WARNED THAT DEPLOYMENT WOULD ENHANCE THE
INFLUENCE OF THOSE WHO ARGUED THAT A NUCLEAR WAR IS
FIGHTABLE AND WINABLE. HE ALSO FELT THAT DEVELOPMENT
OF THE WEAPON WOULD INCREASE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT STATES

NOT NOW IN POSSESSION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WOULD ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THEM, CITING THE "IMPACT STATEMENT ON THE NEUTRON BOMB OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL TO THE U.S. SENATE." BARABY FELT, MOREOVER, THAT THE BOMB COULD ERASE THE BORDER BETWEEN NUCLEAR AND NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

3. PER-ANDERS FOGELSTROM OF THE LEFT-WING SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY-ORIENTED SWEDISH PEACE AND CONSILIATION ASSOCIATION DECRIED THE VIEW THAT THE WEAPON IS A "CLEAN, INNOCENT CHILD WEAPON," SARCASTICALLY QUOTING UNNAMED PENTAGON SOURCES WHO WERE REPUTED TO HAVE CLAIMED THAT THE BOMB WOULD ENABLE NATO TO "RETAKE THE SISTINE CHAPEL IN THE EVENT SOVIET TANKS OCCUPIED ST. PETER'S SQUARE WITHOUT KILLING THE POPE." FOGELSTROM DENOUNCED THE "PROPERTY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN PEOPLE" VIEW THAT IS ALLEGED TO LIE BEHIND THE BOMB'S DEVELOPMENT, QUOTING OTHER UNNAMED US GENERALS WHO LAMENTED THE LACK OF SUCH A WEAPON IN WORLD WAR II. BENGT GUSTAVSSON, HEAD OF THE SWEDISH UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION ALSO CONDEMNED THE "ANTI-PEOPLE, PRO-PROPERTY" BIAS OF THE BOMB, AND CALLED IT A RESULT OF THE CYNICISM OF WEAPONS THEORISTS. HE BELIEVED INCREASING EXPENDITURES ON WEAPONS WERE ANOMALOUS IN A WORLD WHICH HAS "NEVER BEFORE HAD SO MANY UNEMPLOYED AND STARVING PEOPLE."

4. RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY MEETING TO BE SENT TO PRESIDENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STOCKH 04729 071458Z

CALLS A DECISION TO DEVELOP THE NEUTRON BOMB AND CRUISE MISSILE A THREAT TO WORLD PEACE AND EUROPEAN SECURITY, AS WELL AS A VIOLATION OF US COMMITMENTS UNDER THE HELSINKI AGREEMENT TO WORK FOR "PEACE AND FREEDOM" IN EUROPE. IT RECALLS THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENTS TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND STATES THAT THE RIGHT TO LIVE IN SECURITY IS THE MOST ELEMENTARY HUMAN RIGHT."

5. ONE OF THE GROUP'S ORGANIZERS ALSO MENTIONED THAT HE WOULD TRY TO ORGANIZE A PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE NEUTRON BOMB AND NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT WITH PARTICIPATION FROM THE US AND SOVIET EMBASSIES. WE HAVE NOT, HOWEVER, RECEIVED ANY INVITATIONS YET.

6. FUTURE DIRECTION OF LOBBY EFFORT IS TO BE SEEN IN EXPECTATION VOICED AT MEETING THAT JANUARY GATHERING OF SWEDISH POPULAR MOVEMENTS (A PEOPLES RIKSDAG) WOULD BE USED TO CONDEMN THE NEUTRON BOMB. ALSO, ANTI-BOMB GROUPS PLAN TO INSIST THAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT SPONSOR A RESOLUTION IN THE UNGA DEMANDING THAT THE WEAPONS BE SCRAPPED.

7. COMMENT: IN THE NEUTRON BOMB, LEFT-WING SWEDISH

GROUPS UNDOUBTEDLY BELIEVE THEY HAVE AT LAST FOUND A NEW ISSUE TO UNITE THEM AGAINST THE US. THE MAIN ARGUMENTS USED IN THE SWEDISH PROTEST APPEAR TO BE (A) THE ANTI-NUCLEAR VIEW THAT ANY ADDITION OF NEW WEAPONS TO THE NUCLEAR ARSENAL IS PER SE DESTABILIZING AND DANGEROUS AND (B) THE PACIFIST VIEW THAT THE NEUTRON BOMB IS BAD BECAUSE IT KILLS PEOPLE, AND BY A SLOW AGONIZING PROCESS AT THAT. GROUPS OPPOSING THE WEAPON ARE WELL-ORGANIZED, EVEN IF THEY DO NOT REPRESENT, FOR THE MOST PART, INFORMED OPINION ON STRATEGIC MATTERS. MODERATE PARTY COORDINATOR CARL BILDT, FOR EXAMPLE, HAS TOLD US THAT THOSE INVOLVED IN MILITARY THINKING IN SWEDEN ARE FAR LESS WORRIED ABOUT THE BOMB THAN THOSE REPRESENTED BY THE STOCKHOLM MEETING. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE STRONG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 04 STOCKH 04729 071458Z

OBJECTIONS TO THE WEAPON STATED TO US BY SWEDEN'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE GENEVA DISARMAMENT NEGOTIATIONS, MRS. INGA THORSSON, AS WELL AS HER RECENT STATEMENTS AGAINST THE BOMB AT THE UNGA, WE DO NOT AT ALL EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT SWEDEN WILL INTRODUCE SOME KIND OF RESOLUTION AT THE UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT NEXT SPRING CALLING FOR A BAN ON THE WEAPON'S DEPLOYMENT. KENNEDY-MINOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NATIONAL SECURITY, NUCLEAR BOMBS, MILITARY PLANS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STOCKH04729
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770410-0972
Format: TEL
From: STOCKHOLM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771187/aaaacwnl.tel
Line Count: 144
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5f49d51f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STOCKHOLM 4337
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 685054
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SWEDES PLAN FURTHER CAMPAIGN AGAINST NEUTRON BOMB
TAGS: PARM, MNUC, SW
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5f49d51f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009